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## BUILD GIANT BLAST FURNACE AT DIOSGYOR

A giant blast furnace is now being built at Diosgyor. Large-scale construction was begun on 16 July 1951 in an eastern section of the Diosgyor Metallurgical Works, which was formerly used as a slag dump. Chief construction boss of the project is young Tamas Szenczi.

When completed, the new blast furnace will be the largest in the country, and will produce more iron than both the existing Diosgyor furnaces combined, and these are not of the smallest type. The new blast furnace will be 65 meters [sic] high. A chimney being built next to the blast furnace will be 55 meters high.

Ore, coke, and lime are fed by means of a 24-cell bunker and an automatic weighing car. Much of the work in connection with the blast furnace will be controlled by push buttons. Stoves for preheating air will be located next to the furnace, and will supply compressed air at 700-800 degrees centigrade. The giant blast furnace will require large reserves of raw materials. A coke store of enormous capacity will be built.

The Diosgyor electric furnaces, rolling mills, and other shops consume a large amount of electricity, and the existing electric power plant does not have sufficient capacity to meet the increased demand created by the addition of the new, giant blast furnace. Therefore, expansion of the power plant engine house will be undertaken. The old wooden cooling tower of the power plant will be replaced by three concrete cooling towers 40 meters high. The second of the three concrete towers should be completed by mid-December.

Construction of the new installation will require an enormous amount of material. The following figures illustrate the dimensions of the new metallurgical construction: the total volume of the blast furnace will be 200,000 cubic meters, requiring 5,000 tons of structural steel, 1,200 tons of steel for the construction of the machine equipment, 8,500 tons of fire-resistant bricks, and 5 kilometers of various pipes.



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When the Diosgyor Metallurgical Investment Enterprise was charged with construction of the giant blast furnace, the deadline for the first pouring was set for 1 May 1952. There was much doubt as to whether construction of the largest blast furnace ever attempted in Hungary could be completed in 9 1/2 months. Such a large blast furnace has not been built in so short a time anywhere outside the USSR. Tamas Szenczi and his experienced men, however, have pledged to be ready to pour by the seventh anniversary of liberation, in April.

Construction work will involve moving a 5,000-cubic-meter, 180-ton gasometer, and switching water connections from the old, wooden cooling tower to the new concrete towers, without interrupting production. The experiences of USSR metallurgy provide great aid for the construction of the blast furnace. A 70-meter-high tower crane, which can lift 25 tons 66 meters high is being assembled at the construction site.

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